

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 05183 020349Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----027147 020353Z /61
O P 020032Z DEC 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8154
INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5183

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, RP, UR
SUBJ:PHILIPPINE OFFER TO HOST 1978 UNGA IN MANILA

REF: (A) USUN 5115; (B) USUN 5171

1. AT GENERAL ROMULO'S REQUEST, AMBASSADOR LEONARD MET WITH
ROMULO AND AMBASSADOR YANGO LATE AFTERNOON DECEMBER 1.

2. ROMULO CAME RIGHT TO THE POINT AND IN VERY FIRM AND
EMOTIONAL TERMS SAID THAT HE COULD NOT IN ANY WAY
UNDERSTAND HOW THE US COULD BE AGAINST INSCRIPTION OF
THE NEW PHILIPPINE (PHIL) PROPOSAL TO HOLD THE ORGANIZAING
WEEK AND GENERAL DEBATE IN MANILA. HE DESCRIBED OUR
POSITION ON VOTING AGAINST THE PROPOSAL IN THE GENERAL COMMITTEE
AS APPLICATION OF THE "GAG RULE". HE SAID HE
WAS AT A LOSS TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE US, FOR WHOM HE HAD
FOUGHT OVER THE YEARS, COULD OPPOSE EVEN A DISCUSSION OF
THIS GENEROUS AND FRIENDLY OFFER OF THE PHIL GOVERNMENT.
HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE "PERSONALLY RESENTED"
US RESISTANCE TO THIS PROPOSAL AND WAS WELL AWARE THAT
WE WERE CONSULTING OTHER DELEGATIONS IN THE GENERAL
COMMITTEE, MAKING CLEAR OUR RESISTANCE TO INSCRIPTION. HE
FURTHER SAID HE CONSIDERED THIS "AN UNFRIENDLY ACT" AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 05183 020349Z

THAT THE WHOLE TRADITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS PERMITTED
ANY COUNTRY TO INSCRIBE AN ITEM AND
AT LEAST HAVE A FAIR DEBATE. HE POINTED OUT THAT
HE WAS AWARE OF THE NEGATIVE US POSITION FROM THE OUTSET AND
THAT HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT COULD ACCEPT OUR DECISION TO VOTE
AGAINST THEIR PROPOSAL AFTER DEBATE IN THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY. HE SAID PHILS WOULD INSIST ON AN OPEN

DEBATE AND VOTE IN PLENARY. HE SAID THAT HE PERSONALLY FELT "REBUFFED" BECAUSE HE HAD ON SO MANY OCCASIONS IN THE PAST DEFENDED US INTERESTS IN THE UN. HE DREW ATTENTION TO OUR CLOSE BILATERAL REACTIONS, TO OUR COMMON INTERESTS SUCH AS THE BASES, AND TO THE GENEROSITY OF THIS OFFER AND ITS SPONSORSHIP BY THE FIRST LADY. HE ASKED SPECIFICALLY THAT UNDER SECRETARY COOPER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE BE APPRISED OF HIS DEMARCHE.

3. AMBASSADOR LEONARD POINTED OUT THAT OUR OPPOSITION TO THE ORIGINAL PHIL PROPOSAL HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR MANY WEEKS AGO, QUIETLY AND BILATERALLY, THAT WE DID NOT RELISH A CONFRONTATION WITH THE PHIL GOVERNMENT, AND THAT, FRANKLY, WE WERE UNCOMFORTABLE, AS WERE MOST MEMBER STATES CONCERNING THIS ISSUE. HE WENT ON, HOWEVER, TO STRESS THAT THIS WAS A "MASSIVE" PROPOSAL WITH ENORMOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR MANY COUNTRIES AND THAT EVEN THE NEWER, SCALED-DOWN PROPOSAL COMING THIS LATE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROVIDED US WITH ENORMOUS PROBLEMS, MANY OF WHICH SIMPLY COULD NOT BE STAFFED OUT ON SHORT NOTICE. HE TOLD ROMULO THAT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE NEW PHIL PROPOSAL WERE CONSIDERABLE AND THAT HE VERY MUCH REGRETTED THAT GENERAL ROMULO AND THE PHIL GOVERNMENT MISUNDERSTOOD US OPPOSITION IN THE WAY DESCRIBED. AS REQUESTED BY GENERAL ROMULO, HE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 05183 020349Z

WOULD INFORM WASHINGTON PROMPTLY AND FULLY CONCERNING THE VIEWS PRESENTED.

4. WE ARE AWARE OF DIFFICULTY DEPT NOW FACES AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO FIND A SOLUTION SHORT OF CONFRONTATION. FOLLOWING AMBASSADOR LEONARD'S MEETING WITH ROMULO, LEONARD BRIEFED AMB RICHARD, UK, ON THE STRENGTH AND THRUST OF ROMULO'S DEMARCHE. HE TOLD LEONARD THAT HE VERY MUCH HOPED US WOULD NOT CHANGE OUR POSITION AND THEREBY ERODE THE WESTERN POSITION OF OPPOSITION.

5. SEE REF B FOR TACTICAL SITUATION.
YOUNG

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN05183
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770446-0803
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771297/aaaadesf.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 35afd70c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 5115, 77 USUN NEW YORK 5171
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 372700
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PHILIPPINE OFFER TO HOST 1978 UNGA IN MANILA
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, RP, UR, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/35afd70c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009